



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON ANSBACH
UNIT 28614
APO AE 09177

IMEU-ILL-AST-ZA

01 October 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Prohibition of Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) Operations on Illesheim
"Tank Trail", Policy Letter #6

1. BACKGROUND AND INTENT:

a. The "Tank Trail" was not designed for POV traffic. Illesheim was home to an Armor Brigade from the end of WWII until the 1980's with numerous tanks and armored personnel carriers. The tank trail was a concrete road built in the 1960's for slow moving tactical "tracked" vehicles enroute to a small maneuver area presently called the "Laser Tank Range". It was built to minimize damage to German asphalt roads by heavy tanks and prevent accidents between slow-moving tracked vehicles and faster German national vehicles such as POVs. The "Tank Trail" does not meet the required engineering safety designs for construction materials, curve gradients, slopes or drainage specifications. Additionally, since German farmers use it for farming vehicles, the trail is often covered with mud and manure.

b. Signs are posted at both ends of the "Tank Trail" indicating the road is closed, which prohibits entry for all types of vehicles. It is also a "Privat Strasse" (Private Road). The only exception is for the "Anlieger Frei" sign. This indicates that entry is permitted only to people who reside or have business on that street. The posted speed is 30 kilometers/hour.

c. Since the trail is a private road, it is not cleared of mud, manure, snow, slush, ice, etc., on a regular or timely basis. This results in slippery and hazardous road conditions whenever moisture is present. The dangerous loss of traction will contribute to vehicle accidents!

d. All members of the USAG-Ansbach Community traveling on the trail are exposing themselves to dangerous traffic hazards.

2. POLICY: Individuals with a USAREUR drivers license will not drive POVs on the "Tank Trail." Walking, running or bicycling is permitted. Army motor vehicles are allowed to use the trail when complying with the 30 km speed limit. Individuals traveling between Illesheim and Obernzenn will use the German public roads connecting Illesheim, Urfersheim, Westheim, Sontheim and Obernzenn.

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3. POLICY STANDARDS:

a. Violations of this policy will be subject to the following administrative action:

(1) First offense: 7-day suspension of driving privileges in USAREUR.

(2) Second Offense: 30-day suspension of driving privileges in USAREUR.

(3) Third and Subsequent offenses: 180-day suspension of driving privileges in USAREUR.

(4) If any two violations occur in a six-month period, driving privileges may be suspended for up to twelve (12) months.

b. Individuals involved in an accident may be found "Not in the Line of Duty" during the investigation.

4. This policy will be posted on bulletin boards upon receipt. This policy will be incorporated into the USAG-Ansbach's Safety SOP upon its next revision.

5. The POC for this policy is AST-Illesheim, DSN 467-4515/4690.



JOHN G. REILLY
LTC, SF
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

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